

CLAIMS:

1. An article-receiving and storage device for use with a ladder having a first pair of front legs, a second pair of step supporting legs and a cap with an upper surface, said article-receiving and storage device comprising:

- (a) a base having an interior being dimensioned to receive the top cap of the ladder in an installed position;
- (b) a tray having a bottom wall, front wall, rear wall and side walls defining a storage area;
- (c) a hinge connecting said base and tray whereby the tray may be pivoted from a stored position with said storage area enveloping at least a portion of said base to a deployed position with said tray extending forwardly from said cap; and
- (d) one of said tray or base include a support engageable with the other of said tray or base to maintain said tray in an upwardly canted position when deployed without a load.

2. The article-receiving and storage device of Claim 1 wherein said hinge connecting said base and tray comprises a plurality of barrels having aligned bores which receive a hinge pin.

3. The article-receiving and storage device of Claim 2 wherein one of said barrels defines a non-circular bore and wherein said hinge pin is generally circular in cross-section to establish a frictional fit in said non-circular bore.

4. The article-receiving and storage device of Claim 1 including clamp means on said base engageable with said ladder top cap.

5. The article-receiving and storage device of Claim 4 wherein said base has a top, front wall, rear wall and opposite sidewalls, said rear wall having a depending tab on its exterior and defining a slot having a recess on the interior side and wherein said clamp means comprises a generally L-shaped body having a threaded stud extending through said bore with a nut engaged therewith.

6. The article-receiving and storage device of Claim 5 wherein said clamp is reversibly positionable in said tab slot.

7. The article-receiving and storage device of Claim 6 wherein said nut includes a lock washer and a knurled knob.

8. The article-receiving and storage device of Claim 1 wherein said tray storage area is partitioned into at least two compartments.

9. The article-receiving and storage device of Claim 8 wherein at least one compartment includes a magnetic element.

10. The article-receiving and storage device of Claim 1 further including a removable organizer container positionable in one of said smaller compartments.

11. The article-receiving and storage device of Claim 1 further including detent means
5 associated with said base and tray for temporarily securing said device in said stored position.

12. The article-receiving and storage device of Claim 11 wherein said detent means comprises a slot defined by one of said tray or base sidewalls and a projection alignable with said slot on the other of said sidewalls.

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